

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11

TRSE-00 OMB-01 /065 W

-----112069 211244Z /72

R 200943Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8950

INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 2448

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV PINT BG

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION BY JUNE 15

REF: DACCA 2413

1. PRESIDENT ZIA, IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHIEF MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR, ISSUED A BRIEF NOTIFICATION APRIL 19 STATING THAT ELECTIONS FOR PRESIDENT WOULD BE HELD ON OR BEFORE JUNE 15, 1978. AS HIS AUTHORITY FOR ISSUING THE NOTIFICATION, HE AMENDED A PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION OF 8 NOVEMBER 1975 WHICH HAD SUSPENDED "UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE" THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 48 OF THE 1972 CONSTITUTION DESCRIBING A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. TWO POLITICAL PARTIES, JAGODAL AND THE NATIONAL AWAMI PARTY/BHASHANI (NAP/B), IMMEDIATELY HAILED THE ANNOUNCEMENT.

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2. COMMENT: THE ANNOUNCEMENT ITSELF IS NOT SURPRISING, AND IT IS NOW LEFT TO THE ELECTION COMMISSION TO NAME THE SPECIFIC DAY FOR THE ELECTION. THUS IS ENDED THE SPECULATION ON WHETHER THERE WILL BE A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, AND NOW THE QUESTION WILL CENTER ON WHO THE CANDIDATES WILL BE. PRESIDENT ZIA WILL NO DOUBT BE DRAFTED BY JAGODAL OR A POLITICAL FRONT ORGANIZED BY HIM. GENERAL (RETIRED) OSMANI,

ONE OF THE HEROES OF THE 1971 LIBERATION WAR AND THE LEADER
OF THE MINISCULE JATIYO JANATA PARTY (NATIONAL PEOPLE'S
PARTY) IS GENERALLY CONSIDERED A LIKELY CANDIDATE, BUT NO
AWAMI LEAGUE CONTESTANT SEEMS ON THE IMMEDIATE HORIZON.
AN ELECTION WITHOUT AN AL CANDIDATE, HOWEVER, WOULD HARDLY
BE CONSIDERED A PROPER ELECTION, AS THE AL CONTINUES TO BE
THE PRINCIPAL OPPOSITION PARTY.
SCHNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION BY JUNE 15
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, BG, (RAHMAN, ZIAUR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Declassified/Released
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